



THE MORNING NEWS

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Inaugural Best of Aruba Awards name Minister Otmar Oduber top Leader & Visionary



Minister Otmar Oduber, Best Leader & Visionary

Divi Residences, Best Condominium

On Sunday evening, May 19, a new magazine titled "Best of Aruba" was launched during a gala reception in the ballroom of the Radisson Resort in Palm Beach. The brainchild of island personality Jenny Conde, the magazine's purpose is to answer the question so many first time vacationers put to island residents and frequent visitors: "What is the best....? (place to eat, safari tour, nightclub) on Aruba?"

Best of Aruba attempts to provide a jumping off point for planning a vacation by showcasing what they recommend in a diversity of fields. The magazine's launch was paired with an award ceremony, with trophies distributed to 58 different vendors in categories the publishers consider of the greatest interest to island visitors. The range covers restaurants, athletic events, tour organizations, accommodations, both resorts and condominiums, jewelers, and Aruba's Best New Product of 2013: Arubianas flip-flops, bearing designs based on the nature and culture of the island.

The awards began with a tribute to Aruba's Minister of Tourism, Transport and Labor, Otmar Oduber, who was named "Best Tourism Leader & Visionary 2013." The minister's dynamic action in privatizing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and wooing a number of travel companies such as Caribbean Cruise Lines and KLM to once again add Aruba to their schedule, were only two points in a long list of positive action that has resulted in steady growth in Aruba's tourism statistics during his tenure.

The glamorous award event was meant to provide a taste of what the publishers consider to be an equally glamorous new magazine, providing island visitors insights into the best of Aruba's tourism product. **Rosalie Klein**

(See more photos on page 3)



El Gaucho, Best and Biggest Steaks



US denounces waves against Muslims, Jews

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The United States on Monday denounced what it called a rising tide of both anti-Muslim and anti-Jewish sentiment around the world as it urged all nations to ensure freedom of religion.

In a wide-ranging annual report on religious freedom, the State Department voiced alarm at growing attacks against minority groups and painted a bleak picture in nations such as China, Iran, Myanmar, North Korea and Saudi Arabia.

Secretary of State John Kerry, while acknowledging that the US record was not perfect, called religious freedom a "universal value" as he presented the report.

"The freedom to profess and practice one's faith -- to believe or not to believe, or to change one's beliefs -- that is a birthright of every human being," Kerry said.

"I urge all countries, especially those identified in this report, to take action now to safeguard this fundamental freedom," he said.

Kerry announced the appointment of Ira Foreman, who served as President Barack Obama's campaign outreach director to Jewish voters, to fill the State Department position of special envoy to combat anti-Semitism.

The report said anti-Semitism was rising in the media of Egypt and Venezuela, where failed presidential candidate Henrique Capriles has Jewish ancestry, and pointed to Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's remarks questioning the extent of the Holocaust.

The State Department report, which covered 2012, said that "Anti-Muslim rhetoric and actions were clearly on the rise -- particularly in Europe and Asia."

"Government restrictions, which often coincided with societal animosity, resulted in

anti-Muslim actions that affected everyday life for numerous believers," it said.

The survey said that religious freedom declined further in China and that authorities cracked down particularly hard on the mostly Muslim Uighur community and on Tibetan Buddhists, whose monasteries are under close watch.

The report said that Muslims also faced new restrictions in 2012 in countries ranging from Belgium, which banned face-covering religious attire in classrooms, to India where schools in Mangalore restricted headscarves.

The report also voiced alarm at soaring violence against Islamic minorities including Shiites and Ahmadis in Pakistan, where laws restrict the Ahmadi community from even itself as Muslim.

The study also voiced concern for Ahmadis in Indonesia and Bahais in Iran. It said blasphemy laws were widely abused in Islamic countries including Pakistan, where incidents last year included the detention of a mentally challenged girl.

First waves

The first tropical waves of 2013 have been analyzed today along 61-62W and 33-34W with the one closest affecting the northern coast of South America and the one just off the African coast. According to a stormCARIB spokesperson it looks pretty mean for such an early wave but development is virtually impossible at this point. Not to say it's not possible but environmental conditions are definitely not conducive. However, it could be a very wet weekend coming up for the Windwards and NE Leewards where some drought is still evident.

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Electric Busses slated to save Arubus 30%



The Aruba Minister of Transport is on his way to Colombia to investigate the efficiency of electric busses at their BYD company. It is expected that electric busses will economize on monthly expenses of Arubus. The 4 electric busses will be charged at WEB. According to the Minister, charging the busses at WEB would be better for guaranteeing a sustainable and stable supply. This will also stabilize the maintenance expenses and the operation of the company considering the cost of diesel fuel. The entire project will have a positive impact on the carbon emission in environment.

According to the Minister, these electric busses will save Arubus a whopping 30% on the cost of doing business. The Minister is convinced that these busses will not only be less expensive, but that they will contribute to the green energy for our environment. The government has already received a presentation from companies in Holland selling electric busses.

Now, they want to look at Colombia, after which Arubus will travel to the USA to view other options there. That will be followed by an evaluation as to which would be the best buy for these busses.

Boarding Residence for persons with multiple disabilities is in the planning



Min. Hooyboer-Winklaar looking over the plans

Persons with multiple disabilities will soon have their own boarding residence on Aruba. This special project is currently on the drawing board and soon to be implemented after much hard work by the Stichting Verstandelijk Gehandicapten Aruba (SVGA).

It is expected that before the end of the year 2013 construction will have begun for a boarding facility where persons needing quality care because of a combination of physical and mental limitations can be housed. Most of these persons today still either live at home with family, while some have been sent to Curacao or Holland to live in a boarding facility overseas.

Caring for a person with multiple disability is a true labor of love, a 24 hours 7 days/week task, which is very difficult.

The Minister of Social Affairs Michelle Hooyboer-Winklaar is of the conviction that families need to be con-

fident that their loved ones are being well cared for right here on Aruba in a friendly atmosphere in the proximity of their family.

The Boarding Facility will be constructed at SVGA in Piedra Plat and will incorporate all aspects of a home for persons with multiple limitations. It is to be modern with

facilities for wheelchairs and other necessary equipment.

Preparations will be undertaken together with the Public Health Department and other stakeholders. They will install a workgroup to set up all that is necessary for its functionality and prepare the details for a quality care center.

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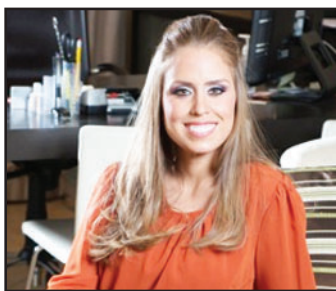


Mark Benson accepts for Elite, Best Audio Visual Company



Magazine and Awards founder Jenny Conde

Mind Your Eye Conference 2013 For Human Resource professionals: Are you prepared to deal with the human factors following a robbery at work?



The Mind your Eye Conference 2013 has an outstanding lineup of speakers scheduled this year with interesting topics concerning each and every one of us.

This coming Friday May 24th, MSc Diana Wever-Salcedo will be presenting and she will mainly focus on the human factors involved in robberies at work. Diana Wever-Salcedo's agenda includes an explanation of the reactions that victims of crime at work might have (e.g. bodily reactions, work related behaviors and cognitions a person might experience).

The purpose of the presentation is to provide managers, human resource professionals and employers a better understanding of their personnel during and after such negative incidents. This way or-

ganizations' can be better prepared and motivated to minimize the negative effects of robberies at work. Diana Wever-Salcedo will also discuss factors that can positively or negatively influence a person's ability to cope with a robbery at work. Further, Diana Wever-Salcedo will discuss easy and cost efficient preventive measures, which can be implemented to reduce the risk of robberies at work right away.

Other topics include different types of interventions possible when such unfortunate events occur and the benefits of having such interventions in place at work. Because unfortunately we can all be exposed to robberies Diana Wever-Salcedo will also mention the Do's & Don'ts if it were to happen to you.

This conference is being organized by HW Training and Development Associates and is scheduled to take place on May 24th at the Hyatt Regency Resort Aruba.

For more information concerning the conference, please visit their website at: www.hwtrainingaruba.org.

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Vermont becomes third US state to legalize assisted suicide

NEW YORK (AFP) - Vermont became on Monday the third US state to legalize physician-assisted suicide.

Peter Shumlin, the Democratic Governor of the small progressive-leaning state, signed into law a bill that lawmakers adopted last week. Vermont follows the states of Oregon and Washington in legalizing the practice.

"Vermonters facing terminal illness at the end of their lives now have control over their own destinies," Shumlin said, at a ceremony at the Capitol in Montpelier.

Vermont, a mostly rural state in New England, is the first US state to adopt physician-assisted suicide by legislative process rather than through a voter-initiated referendum.

Under the Vermont law, terminally ill patients who are given no more than six months to live can ask their



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Pope statue unveiled in Italian potato field



NAPLES, Italy (AFP) - The first-ever statue of Pope Francis has been unveiled in a potato field near Naples -- an unorthodox homage to the fact that the Argentine pope's ancestors were farmers in northern Italy.

The statue will be presented to the pope next month by Italian actor Barbato De Stefano, who comes from the village of Cicciano where it was presented and has financed the project.

"The poverty of my village

is a treasure for the community in which I was born and grew up," said De Stefano, who praised the pope's own modest demeanour saying he had "pierced people's hearts".

The primitive-style statue was shown on Sunday, with a painted background of the balcony of St Peter's Basilica on which the pope stood after his election at a conclave of cardinals in March.

The 76-year-old pope was formerly the archbishop of Buenos Aires, Cardinal Jorge Bergoglio.

Like many Italians, his parents emigrated to Argentina between the First and Second World Wars.

Apple offshore loopholes averted taxes: panel

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Apple avoided paying taxes on tens of billions of dollars in profits through a complex network of subsidiaries, many with "no declared tax jurisdiction," a US Senate panel has concluded.

The Senate investigation, set to be discussed at a hearing Tuesday, stopped short of accusing the US tech giant of anything illegal but two lawmakers on the panel said the tax strategies call for new scrutiny.

"Apple wasn't satisfied with shifting its profits to a low-tax offshore tax haven," said Senator Carl Levin, head

of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, in a statement Monday.

"Apple sought the holy grail of tax avoidance. It has created offshore entities holding tens of billions of dollars, while claiming to be tax resident nowhere."

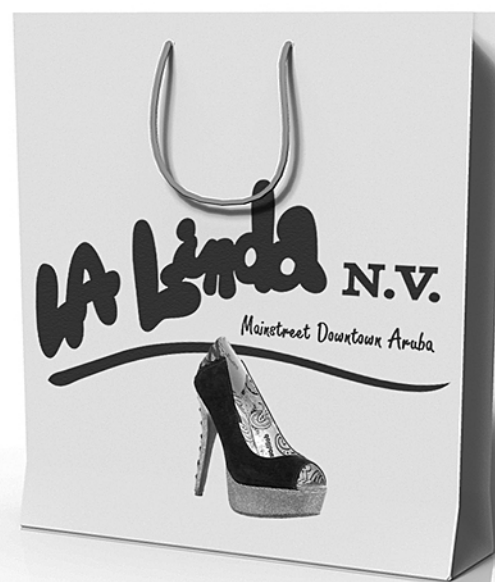
Levin said Tuesday's hearing would "highlight that gimmick and other Apple offshore tax avoidance tactics so that American working families who pay their share of taxes understand how offshore tax loopholes raise their tax burden, add to the federal deficit and ought to be closed."



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US Supreme Court to rule on city hall prayers

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The US Supreme Court agreed Monday to weigh the constitutionality of an upstate New York city's tradition of opening its local council meetings with prayers.

Its decision comes a year after a federal appeals court sided with two residents of Greece, New York who contend the prayer practice improperly affiliates the Rochester suburb of 96,000 with a single religion, Christianity.

The case marks the first time in 30 years that the highest court in the United States has considered the separation of church and state when it comes to opening government meetings with prayers.

"A town council meeting isn't a church service and it shouldn't seem like one," said Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, which opposes the practice.

"Government can't serve everyone in the community when it endorses one faith over others," he said. "That sends the clear message that some are second-class citizens based on what they believe about religion."

Thomas Hungar, representing Greece's city hall with support from Alliance Defending Freedom, a social conservative group, said "legislative prayer" is deeply rooted in American history.

"We hope the court will reaffirm the settled understanding that such prayers, offered without improper motive and in accordance with the conscience of the prayer-giver, are constitutional," the lawyer said.

Since 1999, town board meetings in Greece have started with a prayer with no restrictions on faith, but plaintiffs Susan Galloway and Linda Stephens say nearly all the prayers have been said by Christian clergy members.

The very few exceptions included a Wiccan priestess, the head of the local Bahai'i congregation and a Jewish layman, according to the appeals court petition filed in September 2012.

The case hinges on the so-called Establishment Clause of the Constitution's First Amendment, or Bill of Rights, which prohibits the US authorities from favoring one religion over another.

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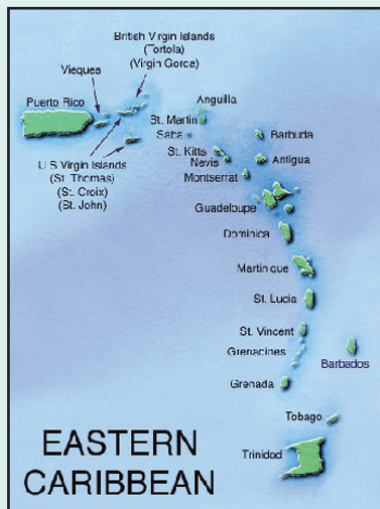
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Earthquake shakes

Eastern Caribbean islands



Port of Spain— An earthquake of 5.3 degrees on the Richter scale shook several Eastern Caribbean islands without causing damage or casualties, the Seismic Department of the University of the West Indies reported today. The institution stressed that the quake's epicenter was located southwest of Barbuda, part of the Antigua and Barbuda federation. At the end of last month, a 5.1 degree temblor shook the country and some days ago another one was felt in Trinidad and Tobago.

Recently the U.N. Office for Reduction of Disaster Risk warned that Caribbean islands should prepare for stronger earthquakes and tsunamis.

"The Caribbean Islands are in an area of relatively high seismic activity and can experience a magnitude eight earthquake at any time if we consider previous standards," a spokesperson said.

Israel backs Kerry peace moves despite internal debate

JERUSALEM (AFP) - Israel's centre-right government will support US efforts to revive peace talks with the Palestinians, despite hardline positions held by ministers and coalition parties, a prominent MP said on Monday.

"If (Prime Minister Benjamin) Netanyahu goes on the path that US Secretary of State Kerry is encouraging... he will have the full support of... the majority of the parliament," Ofer Shelah, a member of the powerful Yesh Atid party told army radio.

Kerry has been back and forth to the region to push for the resumption of peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, and is due to return on Thursday for his fourth visit since taking office in February.

"Solving the Israeli-Palestinian dispute within the framework of two states for two peoples is in the highest interest of the state of Israel and in the highest interest of every Israeli government including the present government of which we are a part," Shelah said.

The MP added that Ne-

tanyahu would have the "full support of (Finance Minister) Yair Lapid and (Lapid's) Yesh Atid," the second-largest party in the Knesset and a member of the ruling coalition.

The comments came despite opposition from Lapid, in a New York Times interview published on Sunday, to a settlement freeze and to ceding east Jerusalem to Palestinian rule, two of the Palestinians' top demands.

"Mr Lapid said he would not stop the so-called 'natural expansion' of settlements in the West Bank, nor curtail the financial incentives offered Israelis to move there," the New York Times wrote.

It quoted him as saying that mainly-Arab east Jerusalem, which the Palestinians claim as the capital of their future state, must remain under Israeli sovereignty because "we didn't come here for nothing."

Israel captured east Jerusalem from Jordan in the 1967 Six-Day War and annexed it shortly after, in a move never recognised by the international community.

India, China vow to end long-running border dispute

NEW DELHI (AFP) - The Indian and Chinese premiers pledged on Monday to resolve a border dispute that has soured ties for decades, saying good relations between the two Asian giants were key to world peace.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang, making his first foreign visit since taking office,

said that Beijing was determined to build up trust with New Delhi as he and a team of ministers signed a series of joint agreements with India.

His host, Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, also stressed he regarded a good bilateral relationship as crucial to the wider region's development.

Li's visit comes after a flare-up last month in a long-running border dispute between the two countries in a remote Himalayan region.

New Delhi accused Chinese troops of intruding nearly 20 kilometres (12 miles) into Indian-claimed territory, triggering a three-week standoff that was resolved when troops from both sides pulled back.

The Line of Actual Control between the nuclear-armed neighbours has never been formally demarcated, although they have signed accords to maintain peace since the border region saw a brief Indo-Chinese war in 1962.

Singh said there was now a mutual desire to resolve the dispute and that a joint working group would be established to reach a lasting agreement.

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Tornado hits Oklahoma City suburb



WASHINGTON (AFP) - A powerful tornado ripped through an Oklahoma City suburb Monday, leveling countless homes and hitting at least two schools, according to local news reports.

Local television station KFOR, from its news helicopter, showed wide swaths of Moore, a community of 55,000 to the south of Oklahoma's state capital, reduced to rubble.

Storm spotters estimated the tornado, which struck in mid-afternoon, to be two miles (3.2 kilometers) wide.

"We anticipate that these storms are going to continue to build around Oklahoma," Governor Mary Fallin told CNN as the National Weather Service urged the state's residents to take cover.

In downtown Oklahoma City, tornado sirens went off at least three times.

Tornadoes frequently touch down on Oklahoma's wide open plains, but the fact that Monday's twister struck a populated urban area raised fears of a high casualty toll.

On Sunday, a powerful storm system churning through the US Midwest spawned tornadoes in Iowa, Kansas and Oklahoma, destroying homes and killing at least one person, US media reported.

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International News

Radical cleric Abu Qatada denied bail in Britain



LONDON (AFP) - Jordanian terror suspect Abu Qatada was on Monday denied bail in his latest legal skirmish with British authorities, who have been trying to deport him for a decade.

The cleric has been in and out of British prisons since 2002 as he fights successive government attempts to send him to Jordan, where he has been convicted of terror charges in his absence.

To ministers' horror he was released from his latest stint in jail in November, but was arrested again in March for allegedly breaching his bail conditions.

A judge at Britain's Special Immigration Appeals Commission (SIAC) ruled on Monday that the preacher, once dubbed Osama bin Laden's right-hand man in Europe, should remain in custody.

"There is no doubt about the national security threat which the appellant presents," judge Stephen Irwin said.

"We reject the submission that he can, even now, be relied on to comply with his legal obligations and not to attempt to abscond."

In a surprise move earlier this month, Abu Qatada's

lawyer told the court that the preacher would return to Jordan voluntarily if its parliament ratifies a treaty barring the use of evidence obtained by torture.

The issue is at the heart of Britain's long struggle to deport him to Jordan, where he faces a likely retrial over his alleged involvement in the planning of terrorist attacks.

Last year the European Court of Human Rights blocked his deportation due to fears that evidence obtained through torture would be used against him in the new trial.

SIAC ruled in November that he could be released despite posing a risk to national security.

However, the cleric was sent back to jail in March after a stash of mobile phones, computer memory sticks and other digital devices were found in his home in what Irwin said was a "significant" breach of his bail conditions.

Government lawyer Robin Tam said a USB stick found in the bedroom of Abu Qatada's eldest son had contained schoolwork but also "jihadist files" including references to Al-Qaeda.

Abu Qatada had admitted breaching bail conditions which prevent him from turning on mobile phones or possessing other communication devices at his taxpayer-funded home in London.

But he claimed that he did not use the phones, several of which belonged to his wife and children.

Qatar emir slams 'international inaction' over Syria

DOHA (AFP) - The emir of Qatar, a strong supporter of the Syrian rebels, on Monday slammed what he called inaction by the international community over the conflict there, lamenting the failure to reach a political solution.

"It is no longer acceptable that influential states in the international community do not act to end the horrific tragedy and escalating humanitarian catastrophe" in Syria, Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa al-Thani told the Doha Forum.

He appeared to allude to Western countries, which have failed to agree to arm Syrian rebels, as the revolt against President Bashar al-Assad's regime entered its third year in March.

Activists say more than 94,000 people have been killed.

He said that those countries, which he did not name, "want to decide themselves who should be the defender of the Syrian people," in an apparent reference to concerns about the presence of radical Islamists among Syrian rebels.

Sheikh Hamad lamented the "failure of all international and Arab initiatives to get the Syrian regime to listen to the sound of reason".

He expressed "sorrow at seeing the revolution of the Syrian people enter its third year without the clear perspective of an end to the bloodshed... because of the regime's insistence on a military solution".

The United States and Russia, a strong Assad ally, have proposed a peace conference for June, bringing together representatives of the regime and its opponents, with the aim of reaching a political solution.

Dutch youth charged in Greece over Russian boy's stabbing

HERAKLION (AFP) - A 20-year-old Dutch entertainer was charged with attempted murder on Monday after repeatedly stabbing a 12-year-old Russian boy vacationing on the Greek island of Crete, local officials said.

The suspect, who has confessed to the crime, will be kept under guard at the psychiatric ward of Heraklion hospital pending trial as his family claims he is autistic, a judicial source on the island said.

Authorities on Crete said the

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Russian boy had been stabbed at least 20 times and left bleeding in the bushes behind the debris-strewn parking lot of his hotel in the town of Hersonisos, where the police found him early last Wednesday morning.

According to the police, he had been missing since Tuesday evening when a show was held on the premises.

The boy was rushed to an Athens children's clinic where he underwent emergency surgery on Wednesday to address

spinal damage, the clinic said.

He remains in intensive care.

The boy's mother told authorities that the accused had stolen her son's iPad and mobile phone and he had gone to reclaim them when he disappeared.

The Dutchman, who was working at the hotel as a performer -- a clown according to Greek media -- has confessed to stealing the items and stabbing the boy with a knife, which he subsequently washed and hid in a fire safety box.



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 - * Ask your dentist if you need a mouthwash that contains fluoride or one with ingredients that fight plaque.
 - * Avoid foods that contain a lot of sugar. Sugar helps plaque grow.
 - * Avoid using tobacco products, which can cause gum disease and oral cancer. Exposure to tobacco smoke (secondhand smoke) also may cause gum disease as well as other health problems.¹
 - * Practice tongue cleaning. You can use a tongue cleaner or a soft-bristle toothbrush, stroking in a back-to-front direction. Tongue cleaning is particularly important for people who smoke or whose tongues are coated or deeply grooved.
 - * Schedule regular trips to the dentist based on how often you need exams and cleaning.
- Experts recommend that your child's dental care start at 12 months of age. If your baby has dental problems caused by injury, disease, or a developmental problem, see your pediatric dentist right away.**

Americas weigh legalizing pot

WASHINGTON (AFP) - An Organization of American States report published called for taking a closer look at possibly legalizing marijuana in Latin America.

The report examined an issue that until recently was a taboo topic in the region. Politicians, desperate for measures to control drug-linked violence, are now open to legalization.

The report does not make specific proposals, but looks at different scenarios in which countries could handle the drug trade blamed on scores of deaths.

"Never before has a multi-lateral organization engaged in such an inclusive and intellectually legitimate analysis of drug policy options," said Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance, the largest US group pushing for reforming drug policies in the United States.

According to Nadelmann, "political pressures by the US and other governments would have made that impossible."

The new focus on alternatives to prohibition reflects the "unhappiness" of Latin Americans toward a US policy that continues to focus on crop eradication and militarized crackdowns, said Peter Hakim at the Inter-American Dialogue, a leading Washington think tank.

According to the report, the regulation of some drugs would allow governments to reassign resources to the prevention and treatment of addicts.

Ritual circumcision kills 23 males in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG (AFP) - South African police said on week-end they had launched a series of murder inquiries after 23 males died while undergoing circumcision during traditional rites of passage into manhood.

The 23 -- aged between 13 and 21 -- died in various places across the country's northeastern Mpumalanga province over the course of a week.

One of the deaths was labelled inquest because the boy reportedly had an existing health condition.

There have been no arrests yet as police compile statements and await post-mortem results.

Ritual circumcision is common among South Africa's ethnic Xhosa, Sotho and Ndebele ethnic groups.

Deaths at so-called initiation schools in South Africa are common, with several hundred cases recorded in recent years due to bleeding and infections.

Boys spend around a month in secluded bush or mountains areas for the sessions that also include lessons on the virtues of masculine courage and discipline.

There are usually two circumcision seasons - in winter during the months of May through July and in summer between November and December.

Government and the ruling African National Congress Party have expressed concern

at the deaths which have nonetheless sparked little public outrage.

Government spokeswoman Phumla Williams called on the initiation schools "to ensure that precautionary health measures are exercised during this period to minimise illnesses and death."

Minister in The Presidency for Performance Monitoring and Evaluation, Collins Chabane said he was saddened by the loss of young lives.

The "loss of several young lives in Mpumalanga and elsewhere in the country is regrettable," Chabane said this week.

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Sci-Tech

Asia-Pacific leaders warn of water conflict threat

CHIANG MAI (AFP) - Fierce competition for water could trigger conflict unless nations cooperate to share the diminishing resource, leaders from Asia-Pacific nations warned Monday.

From Central to Southeast Asia, regional efforts to secure water have sparked tensions between neighbours reliant on rivers to sustain booming populations.

Breakneck urbanisation, climate change and surging demand from agriculture have heaped pressure on scarce water supplies, while the majority of people in Asia-Pacific still lack access to safe water despite surging economic growth.

"There could be a fight over resources" unless countries agree to share water, Thailand's Prime Minister Yingluck Shinawatra said in an address to a regional water security forum in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai.

"No country in this region can handle these challenges alone," she said, hailing forums such as the Asia-Pacific Water Summit as the route to satisfying countries' thirst peacefully.

A Thai firm is behind a controversial dam over the Mekong river in Laos, a project decried by downstream countries Vietnam and Cambodia which fear it could ruin their farming and fishing in-

dustries.

Asian nations need to plough an estimated \$380 billion into water and sanitation systems in the decade to 2020 if they are to achieve water security, Brunei Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah warned the summit.

One such row is between Uzbekistan and its neighbours Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan which want to build two of the world's biggest hydro-electric power stations.

Speaking at the conference on Sunday, Tajik President Emomali Rakhmon defended his country's right to exploit its natural resources but pledged to pursue a "peaceful solution" to the dispute which has seen angry rhetoric soar over recent months.

Bangladeshi Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina cited a water-sharing treaty between her nation and India over the Ganges river as an example of successful water diplomacy.

Low-lying Bangladesh has around 30 million people exposed to rising sea levels, she added, raising the issue of climate change in a region where catastrophic floods are commonplace.

The Asian Development Bank last month warned that nearly two-thirds of people in the region have no clean, piped water at home despite the region's strong growth, blaming poor management and a lack of investment in infrastructure.

Bolivia leader to meet Carter over land dispute with Chile

LA PAZ (AFP) - President Evo Morales planned to meet ex-US president Jimmy Carter in the US state of Georgia to discuss Bolivia's longstanding territorial dispute with Chile, officials said.

Last month landlocked Bolivia sued neighboring Chile in the Hague, in the latest maneuver in its attempt to recover land lost in a 19th century war and thus regain access to the Pacific.

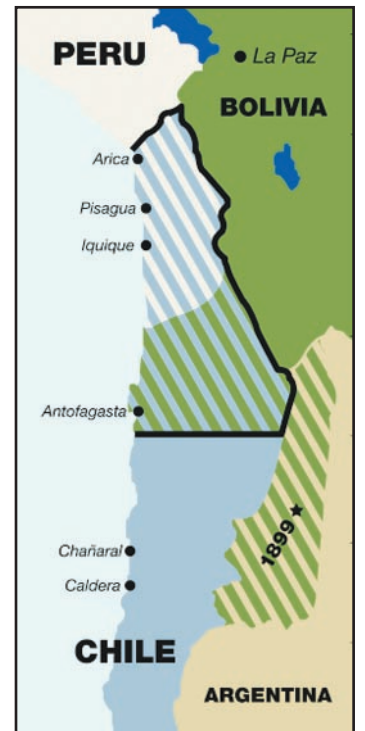
Morales aimed to talk with Carter about the process that led the US to cede control of the Panama Canal back to

Panama. La Paz argues this is a similar situation to its demands that Santiago return disputed land.

The Panama Canal, originally built and administered by the US, was put under joint Panamanian-US rule in 1979, and returned to full Panamanian control in 1999.

Morales has argued it is an example of how treaties can be modified years after being signed.

In a war fought with Chile in 1879, Bolivia lost nearly 400 kilometers (250 miles) of coastline and 120,000 square



kilometers of land.

In refusing Bolivia's demands for Chile to grant it sea access, Santiago has referred to a 1904 treaty between the two countries it says established their common borders.

Aging Yahoo! faces new Tumblr generation

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Yahoo! is under two decades old and is already showing signs of age. Tumblr, the cool blogging platform, represents a new generation.

This split marks both a challenge and an opportunity for the firms, after the announcement that Yahoo! is buying the six-year-old startup for \$1.1 billion, mainly in cash.

"Yahoo users are behind the curve, Tumblr users too cool for school," said Arvind Narayanan, a Princeton University computer scientist, in a tweet. "From this POV (point of view) the acquisition seems ironically appropriate."

Tumblr could be key to Yahoo! because of its popularity with younger Internet users. A survey this year conducted by the online data group Survata found Tumblr more popular than Facebook among those aged 13 to 25.

"Yahoo skews toward older demographics. Tumblr is ridiculously strong among Millennials," said a tweet from Brian Solis, analyst with Altimeter Group.

Some comments posted on

Tumblr as the news broke highlighted this generation gap, as if their parents were intervening to spoil the party.

"YAHOO, CLOSE TUMBLR AND YOU'LL DIE!" one Tumblr user wrote.

Another wrote: "Dear Yahoo ... If you change anything, we will show up at your headquarters with fire and pitchforks. Don't try us."

Still another posted: "Please leave Tumblr alone. You acquired it for the cool factor... Don't tinker with it; don't change it ... Leave it alone."

Yahoo! chief executive Marissa Mayer, in announcing the deal, pledged to allow Tumblr to remain independent, while integrating technology and advertising opportunities.

But some analysts it could be hard for Mayer to keep her promise of keeping Tumblr independent while seeking ways to make the deal pay off.

"If I'm the CEO of Tumblr I would be concerned," said Daniel Odio, senior vice president of California-based Internet firm Share This, who has been involved in a number of technology startups.

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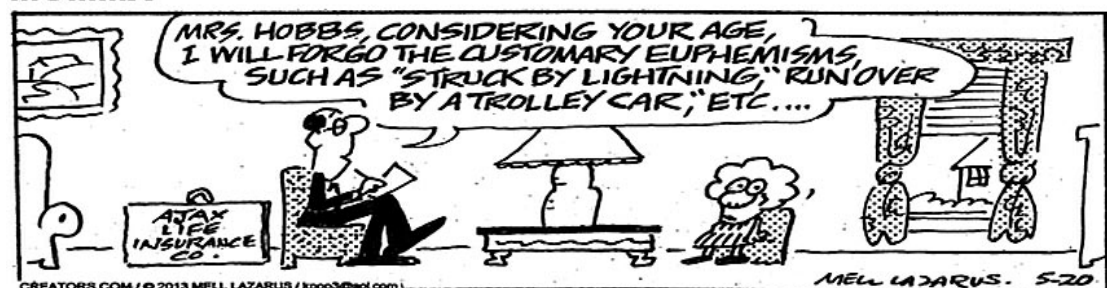
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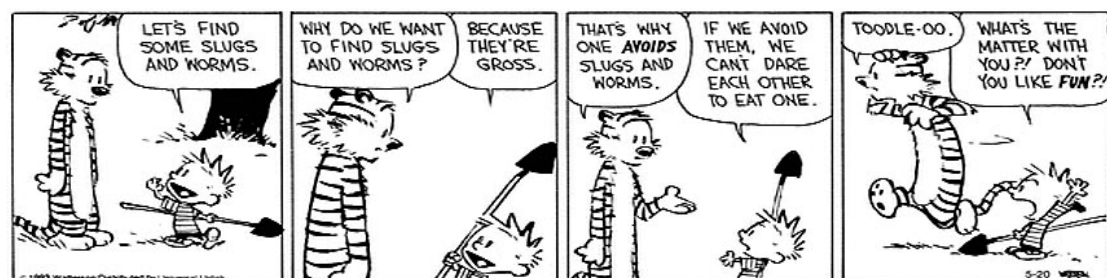
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ACROSS

1. Cuts wood
5. Knight's valet
9. Singer Franklin
11. Scrubbing pad
13. Comical George
14. Intermediate
15. "___ had enough!"
16. Goose eggs
18. AES opponent
19. Fender nick
21. Race the engine
22. "I've ___ Around"
23. Angry growl
25. Mulled autumn drinks
27. Charged particle
29. Musket ending
30. Talk jibberish
33. Post office purchase
37. John Paul II, e.g.
38. Tail motion
40. Capone's trademark
41. Small taste
42. ___-and-go (hyph.)
44. Ledger examiner (abbr.)

45. Scorns

47. Peppy
49. Orange pekoe server
50. Rents
51. Attract
52. Fast jets (abbr.)

DOWN

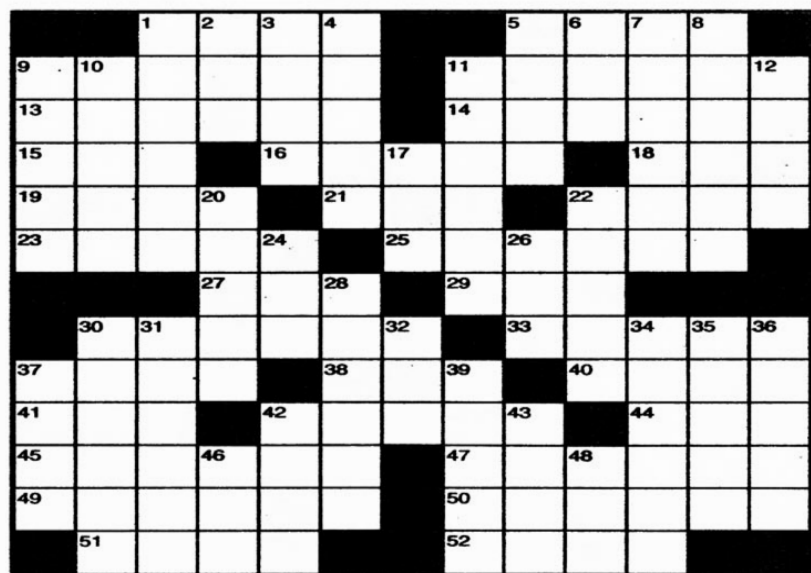
1. Venus's sister
2. Cape Cod's ocean (abbr.)
3. Buzz through the air
4. More sound
5. Obama's title (abbr.)
6. Succor
7. Motorless

airplane

8. Evades
9. Burning fluids
10. Crow's cousin
11. Low-budget film (2 wds.)
12. Sign
17. VCR button
20. Sioux or Cherokee
22. Lahr and others
24. Tennis hit
26. ___ Plains
28. Most recent
30. Signed up for
31. Come into sight
32. Mouse's kin
34. Admission

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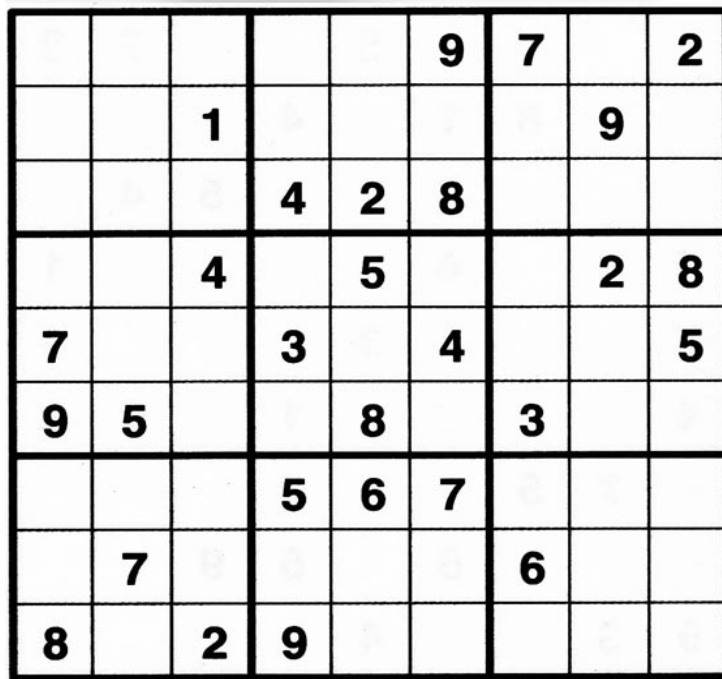
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1	6	9	2	7	8	6	4
6	8	2	4	9	5	1	7
7	4	1	8	2	9	5	6
9	1	7	6	3	8	2	4
8	2	6	9	5	4	7	1
9	1	5	8	2	7	4	6
6	6	8	9	4	1	7	2
2	7	4	6	1	9	8	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9

FINANCE

US stocks dip despite M&A activity

NEW YORK (AFP) - US stocks slipped Monday despite a flurry of merger and acquisition news as investors looked ahead to Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke's testimony to Congress this week.

Yahoo!'s \$1.1 billion deal to buy blogging platform Tumblr temporarily helped to lift the Nasdaq above the flat line, but not enough to keep it there.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average shed 19.12 points (0.12 percent) at 15,335.28.

The tech-rich Nasdaq Composite Index edged down 2.53 (0.07 percent) to 3,496.43 and the broad-market S&P 500 lost 1.18 (0.07 percent) at 1,666.29.

The leading indices drifted for much of the day after surging to new record-high closes on Friday.

Analysts said the market was taking a breather ahead of Bernanke's testimony on the US economic outlook to Congress Wednesday and the release of the Fed minutes from the last policy meeting.

Yahoo! shares rose 0.2 percent after announcing an agreement to buy Tumblr for \$1.1 billion in cash.

The two firms confirmed weekend reports of the tie-up, in a deal which helps the struggling Internet pioneer connect with the privately held Tumblr's youthful users.

"Tumblr gives Yahoo! scale in social media, and, that by itself is enough to argue the deal, at \$1.1 billion, is brilliant," said Douglas McIntyre of 24/7WallSt.com.

US drug maker Actavis

agreed to acquire Irish rival Warner Chilcott for about \$8.5 billion in stock. Actavis shares advanced 1.3 percent.

Private-equity firm Vista Equity Partners offered to buy Internet security firm Websense for \$24.75 per share, or \$907 million. Websense soared 28.8 percent to \$24.76.

Digital marketing business Acuity Group skyrocketed 113.6 percent to \$12.73 after management consultant firm Accenture announced late Friday it would pay \$316 million for the company. Accenture shares rose 0.4 percent.

Goldman Sachs fell 0.5 percent after announcing it was selling the rest of its state in the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, worth around \$1.1 billion.

Bond prices were mixed. The yield on the 10-year US Treasury rose to 1.96 percent from 1.95 percent late Friday, while the 30-year was unchanged at 3.17 percent. Bond prices move inversely to yields.

Alaskan village loses court fight against big oil

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Perched at the tip of an Arctic barrier reef in harsh northwestern Alaska, a tiny village took on big oil for causing the climate change that is eroding its shores, but lost its court fight Monday.

The US Supreme Court declined to hear the case of Kivalina vs. Exxon.

Therefore, a lower court's decision stands, holding that energy companies cannot be sued collectively for harm done by climate change and leaving such issues to lawmakers and the executive branch of government.

The village of Kivalina is home to about 400 people, mostly Inupiat Native Alaskans, and is being forced to relocate because global warming has led to a reduction in sea ice that once protected its shores.

The lawsuit was brought in

Carlos Slim company to buy US mobile phone firm

Mexico City, May 20, 2013 (AFP) - Mexican phone giant America Movil, owned by billionaire Carlos Slim, announced Monday that its US unit reached a deal to acquire US mobile phone company Start Wireless Group.

The price of the transaction was not revealed but a statement said Tracfone Wireless will acquire the assets of Start Wireless, an Ohio-based mobile virtual network operator that provides prepaid voice, messaging and data plans to 1.4 million customers.

The deal is expected to be completed in the second quarter pending the approval of regulators.

A mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) does not own or operate wireless equipment. Instead, it buys services from carriers in bulk and sells packages to retail customers.

America Movil owns fixed-line and mobile phone businesses as well as Internet and cable television services in 17 Latin American nations and the United States.



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Tumblr deal sparks talk on next big tech target

NEW YORK (AFP) - The billion-dollar deal for Tumblr has stirred talk on the next big acquisition target in the sector, with cash-rich tech giants looking for the next potential star.

Yahoo!'s blockbuster deal for the popular blogging platform comes amid a battle for eyeballs on the Internet among big tech firms such as Facebook, Google, Amazon and Apple.

"All the big internet companies that have money are potential buyers," said Michael Pachter, analyst at Wedbush Securities. "Then it depends on what they want to be and how much they are willing to pay."

Each of these firms is trying to get more users into their ecosystem to be able to gather data and "monetize" their user base, mainly by targeting them with ads tailored to their usage patterns, analysts say.

Yahoo! is believed to have outmaneuvered Facebook and Microsoft to get Tumblr, as the major tech giants look past the static Internet boxes to "streams" of content.

"We're all shifting our attention to mobile devices, and we've adopted the 'stream' as our preferred method of content discovery and consumption," says John Battelle, an entrepreneur who founded Wired and

Federated Media Publishing.

The price tag paid by Yahoo! means "the bar now has been set high in terms of valuation," said Allen Weiner at the research firm Gartner.

"It raises the question of what is a company like Twitter is worth."

Perhaps the most prominent of the social media startups to remain private, Twitter "has yet to show an inclination to go public," said Weiner, and it remains unclear whether Twitter will remain independent or be acquired.

Pinterest, which allows users to decorate virtual bulletin boards with pictures showcasing interests in anything from food to sports, fashion or travel, is clearly one of the new companies expected to be a target.

Weiner said, however, that Pinterest, seen last year as one of the rising stars in social media, "has not evolved quickly enough."

Several other startups are likely still being courted, but the landscape has shifted in recent weeks, say analysts.

Dailymotion, the popular video-sharing site, was among those, but the French government's move to block Yahoo!'s acquisition probably dampened enthusiasm for the unit of France Telecom.



SRI LANKA (AFP) - : A cargo ship carriers gantry cranes to be installed at Sri Lanka's new Chinese built Colombo South Container Terminal in Colombo on May 20, 2013. The privately-owned USD 500 million facility is to be transferred to Sri Lankan ownership after 35 years.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



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Swift wins big, Bieber booed at Billboard awards

LAS VEGAS (AFP) - Pop diva Taylor Swift took home an armful of trophies, and Justin Bieber confronted a chorus of boos at the Billboard Music Awards on Sunday.

Swift, 23, in a figure-hugging blue Zuhair Murad mini-dress, collected eight awards including top artist, top female artist and top Billboard 200 album for her latest release "Red," which has sold more than 5.4 million copies worldwide.

"You are the longest and best relationship I ever had," Swift told her fans, turning her tabloid reputation as a serial dater to her advantage.

Teen idol Bieber, sporting outsized aviator sunglasses, played stoic when boos echoed through the MGM Grand auditorium as he

stepped up to collect the fan-voted Billboard Milestone Award.

"I'm 19 years old, I think I'm doing a pretty good job," he said. "I just want to say it should be about the music.... This is not a gimmick. I'm an artist and I should be taken seriously."

In recent weeks, Bieber has caught flak for saying teen Holocaust victim Anne Frank would have been a "belieber," a term used for his fans. He was late for concerts in London and Dubai, and in Germany his pet mon-



Taylor Swift

key was confiscated for lack of paperwork.

Bieber also won Billboard's honors for top male artist and top social artist -- the latter an acknowledgement of his overtaking Lady Gaga in January this year as the most-followed person on Twitter.

Other big winners Sunday included the Belgian-Australian musician Gotye, who won four awards to go with his best-song Grammy for "Somebody That I Used to Know," and Rihanna, who dominated the R&B categories with four laurels.



Taylor Swift in her show



Spectacular show of Bruno Mars

'Star Trek' boldly goes to top of US box office



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - "Star Trek: Into Darkness" soared at warp speed to the top of the US box office, smashing blockbuster sequel "Iron Man 3" off of first place after two weeks there, industry figures showed Monday.

The latest installment of the cult science fiction phenomenon starring Chris Pine and Zachary Quinto took in \$70.2 million on its debut weekend, according to industry tracker Exhibitor Relations.

That's roughly double what runner up "Iron Man 3" -- the comic book superhero flick featuring Robert Downey Jr., which had topped the box office on its first two weekends in theaters -- made with \$35.8 million.

"The Great Gatsby," starring Leonardo DiCaprio in Baz Luhrmann's adaptation of the literary classic, took third place with \$23.9 million.

Fourth, and far behind at \$3.2 million, was action-comedy "Pain and Gain," about

bodybuilders caught up in a botched kidnapping scheme.

Fifth place went to stone-age cartoon "The Croods" at just over \$3 million followed by "42" -- a biopic about trail-blazing black baseball star Jackie Robinson -- that made \$2.8 million.

"Oblivion," the post-apocalyptic action flick featuring Tom Cruise, took seventh place with \$2.3 million, trailed by "Mud," a coming-of-age story with Matthew McConaughey and Reese Witherspoon, with \$2.2 million.

"Peeples" starring Craig Robinson as a boyfriend who initially fails to impress the family of his girlfriend, played by Kerry Washington, came in a close ninth with just under \$2.2 million.

Rounding out the top 10 was the star-studded comedy "The Big Wedding" -- featuring Robert De Niro, Katherine Heigl, Diane Keaton and Robin Williams -- at \$1.2 million.



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5 Burgers Aruba: Now your best breakfast bargain!



A favorite stop for a great burger for lunch or dinner has just expanded their hours and menu to offer some of the best breakfast bargains to be found in Palm Beach. Owners Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. The couple's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu from an inter-

nationally known franchise with a "5", which now includes breakfast.

"You never get a second chance to make a first impression," believes Aaron. Upon entering 5 Burgers Aruba in The Village Mall in Palm Beach, one is struck by utterly spotless surroundings and a smiling, friendly, attentive service crew. Of course, the main item on the menu is burgers-the way they were meant to be, thick and juicy,

made fresh daily and 100% pure beef, the kind that made the hamburger a traditional American treat.

However, beginning at 7 a.m., patrons can now order 2 eggs any style, (omelets with 3 fillings are \$7.99) toast and coffee with unlimited refills for the special introductory price of only \$4.49, (\$5.48 with bacon) or All-you-can-eat pancakes, for \$6.99, again, with free refills on fresh coffee. Breakfast is served until 11 a.m. Famous for their fries made from fresh potatoes, Aaron has been working for months on devising the most irresistible home fries recipe, chunky and tender with skins still on; after much testing and tasting, he got the thumbs up from his harshest critic, Rosie; so this is another treat you have to try.

A glance at their burger menu will certainly tempt you to return for lunch or dinner, to sample their famous specialty items such as the Gouda, Farmer's or Man Burger (al-



most 12 ounces of choice beef), and a Western Burger with Aarons' secret-recipe crispy onion rings. All of these can be personalized with an incredible array of toppings, (mushrooms, jala-peño peppers, bacon, cheese, lettuce, tomato...whatever, the list goes on) at absolutely no extra cost.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of

fries is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only comment "He stole my recipe!"

Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

5 Burgers is now open early until 10-ish at night; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district at now extra cost for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner to sit and chat, sharing their knowledge of the island while making sure patrons are happy with their meal.

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Racing: St Leger winner Encke tests positive



LONDON (AFP) - The 2012 St Leger winner Encke is among seven horses to test positive for anabolic steroids as the investigation widened into doping involving Sheikh Mohammed's Godolphin operation.

The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) revealed on Monday that they had undertaken an extensive testing programme at the yard of Mahmood Al Zarooni, who trained horses for Godolphin, following his recent eight-year suspension for administering banned drugs to 15 horses in his care.

The latest BHA testing returned positive results for the steroid stanozolol and Encke will now be banned from running for six months, meaning he cannot return to action until October 29.

Encke won the Doncaster classic last September at long odds, in the process upsetting the 2,000 Guineas and Derby winner Camelot's Triple Crown bid.

The other six horses, Energizer, Genius Beast, Improvisation, Stamford, Steeler and Zip Top, will also be barred from racing until that date.

Testing at the other Godolphin yard of Saeed bin Suroor returned no positive results for

banned substances.

Al Zarooni has lodged an appeal against the severity of his initial suspension and the BHA has confirmed it will not take any further action until that matter is resolved, with the last week in June currently favoured as a potential hearing date.

Adam Brickell, director of integrity, legal and risk for the BHA, said: "We will not be taking any separate action in respect of these additional positive results whilst Mr Al Zarooni's appeal process is on-going."

"In the meantime, the latest findings from HFL Sport Science will form the subject of further interviews as part of the BHA's continuing investigation."

"From the outset, one of the aims of the investigation, in addition to trying to understand the environment within which such serious breaches came to be committed, has been to identify what measures are needed to ensure the yard operates in accordance with the Rules in future."

"The findings will be shared with Godolphin and will also assist the BHA with regard to the future licensing of the yard."

Football: Mourinho to leave Real at end of the season

MADRID (AFP) - Jose Mourinho will leave Real Madrid at the end of the season after a turbulent three-year spell in charge of the Spanish giants, club president Florentino Perez confirmed Monday.

Mourinho, who has been strongly linked with a return to Chelsea - a team he managed between 2004 and 2007, has endured a torrid final season in charge of Los Blancos culminating in Friday's defeat by Atletico Madrid in the Copa del Rey final that ensured Real end the season without a major trophy.

However, Perez denied that Mourinho had been sacked by the club and said they will not have to pay the Portuguese coach compensation despite the fact his current contract runs until 2016.

"It is not nice for anyone to have to leave but it is also true that after three years we both decided it was the right moment to break this relationship," Perez said.

And despite rumours linking Paris Saint-Germain boss Carlo Ancelotti with the manager's job at the Bernabeu, Perez also claimed he has not reached an agreement with any coach to succeed Mourinho.

The 50-year-old Mourinho's time in charge of the nine-time European champions has been littered with high profile bust-ups with the local media and many of his stellar squad of world class players, but Perez hailed his demanding standards throughout his time in charge

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SPORTS

Table tennis: Zhang retains men's world crown



PARIS (AFP) - Defending champion Zhang Jike of China retained his men's singles title at the World Table Tennis Championships in Paris on Monday after defeating compatriot Wang Hao in the final.

Fourth seed Zhang prevailed 11-7, 11-8, 6-11, 14-12, 5-11, 11-7 in a rematch of last year's Olympic final to secure a fourth major title in a row.

Zhang completed a career grand slam when he pipped Wang to the Olympic crown in London last August, adding to the world title he won two years ago in Rotterdam and the 2011 World Cup, with Wang also the losing finalist on both of those occasions.

Ma Long took top honours at last year's World Cup in Liverpool, an event in which Zhang did not take part.

Having raced into a two games to love lead in the French capital, Zhang was

pegged back by Wang in game three and the contest appeared to be heading for two-all only for Zhang to fight off four set points in the fourth frame to re-establish a two-game advantage.

Wang, the 2009 champion, then took the following game to preserve his title hopes but it proved to be merely a stay of execution as Zhang wrapped things up in game six at the first time of asking.

Despite coming up short against Zhang yet again, beaten finalist Wang was not too downhearted by the loss.

Earlier, women's singles champion Li Xiaoxia doubled her gold medal haul with victory in the doubles final.

Bronze medals were awarded to losing semi-finalists Chen Meng and Zhu Yuling, also of China, and Singapore pair Feng Tianwei and Yu Mengyu.

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NBA: James trades jibes with Pacers coach as series looms

MIAMI (AFP) - Reigning NBA champion Miami is on the verge of a third consecutive NBA Finals berth, but the Indiana Pacers plan to spoil the repeat bid in the Eastern Conference final that starts in Miami on Wednesday.

The Heat, sparked by regular season Most Valuable Player LeBron James and playmaker Dwyane Wade, have the home-court advantage in the best-of-seven series to decide who will face Memphis or San Antonio in June's NBA Finals.

But the Pacers promise a formidable test for Miami, having beaten them in two of three regular-season meetings.



Each team won on its own home court, with Miami having now won six of their past seven home meetings with Indiana.

The Pacers figure to be underdogs but Indiana coach Frank Vogel is focused upon his own team rather than dethroning the defending champions.

"When you're in the final four, you're competing for a championship," Vogel said. "They are the next team in our way. That's how we're approaching it."

That comment stirred the emotions of James, who saw it as an insult to their champion status and 66-win season.

"We're not just another team," James said. "He said we're just another team in their way. We're a great team. If we're just another team, you really don't prepare for just another team. You have to prepare for us."

That prompted Vogel to respond on the Pacers' website on Monday.

"Sorry sports world, the words 'just another team' never came out of my mouth," Vogel said. "Great respect for LBJ and the champs. Looking forward to (a) great series."

It wasn't the first time Vogel aroused the tensions of the Heat ahead of a playoff matchup.

Miami and Indiana met in the second round of last year's playoffs and ahead of that series Vogel called the Heat the "biggest flopping team in the universe."

After the Pacers seized a 2-1 lead in that series, Miami rallied to win the next three games and advance.

Meanwhile in San Antonio: The San Antonio Spurs drained 14 three-pointers in a convincing 105-83 victory over the Memphis Grizzlies in Sunday's opening game of the NBA's Western Conference finals.

Tony Parker scored 20 points and handed out nine assists for the Spurs, whose stifling defense held Grizzlies' top scorer Zach Randolph to only two points.

Randolph came in averaging 19.7 points per game in this post-season, but finished just 1-of-8 from the field for a Grizzlies team appearing in the conference finals for the first time.

The Spurs, meanwhile, showed the poise to be expected from a team making their eighth appearance in a conference final in the last 15 years.

The winners of the best-of-seven series advance to the NBA title series against the Eastern Conference champions.

Team Aruba scores continued from page 16

Alltel Wireless is a great group of people that are just wonderful to be associated with. Having a brand name as big and popular as Alltel Wireless on the hood of a race car makes us feel really good to put that name in the winner's circle.

"The ADRL is doing a wonderful job putting on these races. They are giving us an exciting environment to race in, and they have our full commitment to participating in their events. They have a good group of people working for them that also want to see the ADRL grow bigger and better. The Traction Twins have a track prepared for us in a way that only spoils us more and more every race- we thank you for that."

"Last but not least, I want to thank all the racers in the Extreme Pro Stock category. I want to thank them for having made this such a difficult challenge. It makes our first win that much more special. These

guys are some of the best people to call friends, but when we're at the starting line against them, it doesn't matter how good of friends they can be, they are going to race hard. This weekend we finally got to show that we don't back down and we've got what it takes to stand up against such tough competition. They have beat up on us for a long time. They know this is something that needs to be earned.

"We cannot wait to get another chance to do this again!"

Keep up with Team Aruba at www.facebook.com/teamarubaracing and on Twitter @TeamArubaRacing.

Find race results, team updates, videos and photos. Also leave your comments to cheer on Team Aruba!

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Team Aruba scores first ADRL win



CORDOVA : Heading into the ADRL Spring Drags, Team Aruba was looking to wrap up some unfinished business, and that's exactly what they did. From start to finish, Trevor Eman and the gang from Aruba dominated Extreme Pro Stock the entire weekend. In their first qualifying pass, they laid down the number which would remain on top for the weekend, a 4.099 at 175.98 MPH. The Aruba.com / Alltel Wireless Mustang was again the fastest car in rounds two and three of qualifying. In round four, John Montecalvo and John Pluchino matched Eman's 4.114, but no one was able to beat it.

The team's impressive feats continued on race day. The Kaase Racing Engines powered machine muscled its way through the rounds. Brian Gahm's 4.249 elapsed time was no match for Eman's 4.148 in round one. In the semi finals Eman had the quickest elapsed time of the round, a 4.136 paired with an .024 reaction, time to take out John Pluchino who went .002 red on 4.149 run. Team Aruba would have lane choice in the finals against former World Champion Pete Berner. Although Eman and Berner had been running close numbers all day, Eman made it look easy in the finals, laying down an .003 light and pulling away by a car length, crossing the stripe first with another 4.136.

The team from the 'happy island' had one of their happiest moments ever, as they celebrated this long-awaited victory.

"We definitely finished our unfinished business from Valdosta," relayed an elated Eman. "To come to the next race and qualify number one again was

a very satisfying way to know we had that momentum. Then to maintain the fastest elapsed time out of each round was even better. We made it down the track each and every time from A to B making straight runs and good runs.

"After winning the first round against Brian Gahm, reality started to kick in that we could have a good chance of winning the race. And sure enough we were able to accomplish that. It was very emotional for the whole team. Everybody has been working real hard to accomplish this, and my gratitude and my hat goes off to the entire team.

"My father eats, sleeps and breathes Team Aruba. Bobby has dedicated himself to this team more than anything. John Peterson is one of the hardest working guys I've ever seen. Pat Norcia from RAM Clutches puts his mind totally into this program and is as precise of a person as there is. Doug Schrieffer from Braswell Carburetors has some awesome carburetors on our motor and has this team better organized than ever. Greg Brown from Jon Kaase Racing Engines has our motor completely dominated in a way that has given us a motor that is performing better than we can ever hoped for.

"The emotion between all team members after winning our first race was extremely touching. It was a feeling I got to share with a great group of guys that I wouldn't trade for the world.

"Norbert Dirks who was at the race with us, along with Jeff Lopez and Nelson Winklaar who are back in Aruba keep everybody in Aruba and all of our followers on Face-

book completely up to date on every move Team Aruba makes," Eman continued. "Their efforts have helped create a following of Team Aruba that we could have never expected. So many people were back home watching the live feed and the congratulatory comments were coming in from the moment we qualified number one.

"Above all, we were surrounded by a lot family at this event- my uncle Mike, the Prime Minister of Aruba, with my aunt Doina; my uncle Braat together with his daughter Anouk who was accompanied by her synchronized swimming partner Rym; the Boushard family from Granite City, Ill; Claret Lopez and Greg Peterson who are die hard supporters of Team Aruba. All of these people accompanied us at this race because they knew history was going to be made.

"I wish Aruba in its entirety could have been with us, together with the Aruban drag racing community, who are just as passionate as, and possibly even more than, me about this sport. To all of our social media followers, I cannot thank everybody enough for the kind words they all shared with us. I am told that the crowd standing behind the Aruba.com/Alltel Wireless Mustang was unlike any other when racing the final round. I wish I could have been standing between them to see the reaction when the win light came on.

"Together with great sponsors, great things happen. We are very grateful to the Aruba Tourism Authority who support us and believe in what we are trying to accomplish by drag racing professionally in the United States.

continues on page 15



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